

Why we need a third runway

Melbourne Airport's third runway will deliver much-needed aviation infrastructure capacity for Victoria, increase choice for consumers and support thousands of new jobs.

Melbourne Airport's third runway

The new north-south runway will provide more capacity for passengers and exporters, support competition, reduce delays and enable economic growth in Victoria and Australia. It will support parallel runway operations that will allow for greater flexibility in how the airfield and airspace are used. In the last decade, international growth at Melbourne Airport has outpaced

other Australian airports. The number of passengers travelling through Melbourne Airport is forecast to grow from 36 million (FY25) to around 76 million by 2042. The third runway will support the long-term increase in passengers, freight and aircraft movements generated by Victoria's growing population.



Enable

76 million

passengers to use the airport every year by 2042



Support

37,000

additional jobs in Victoria by 2046



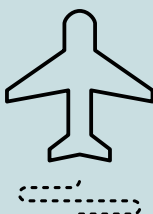
Contribute an additional

\$5.9 billion

to the state economy each year

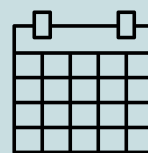


**3,000m
long**



136,500

additional arrivals and departures each year



5-6 years

to build

Visit www.melbourneairportprojectshub.com.au



What is Melbourne Airport's third runway?

Melbourne Airport is building a new third runway aligned north to south and parallel to the existing main runway. It will be 3,000 metres long and located 1.3 kilometres to the west of the existing north-south runway. The new parallel runway system will be able to handle all aircraft types. To accommodate the site's

geography and meet requirements for runway safety zones, the existing east-west runway will be shortened from 2,286 metres to 1,940 metres. A separate project (the Eastern Extension Project) will later restore the runway to its original length to help maximise opportunities for noise sharing.

Why does Melbourne Airport need a new runway?

Victoria is growing, with Melbourne's population expected to reach six million people by 2032 and overtaking Sydney as Australia's largest city. This will generate more demand for air travel and air freight.

Melbourne Airport needs additional runway capacity to accommodate this demand. The new runway will allow for more arrivals and departures, which will help reduce the amount of time planes spend on the ground waiting to depart or in the air waiting to land. Flight cancellations and delays are already becoming increasingly frequent and recovery from delays is becoming more difficult to achieve.

The third runway will allow Melbourne Airport to keep pace with the growth in demand, support improved passenger choices and reduce delays. It will help freight also, given around 85 per cent of freight travels in the cargo hold of passenger aircraft.

Melbourne Airport handles almost 40 per cent of all Australian air freight exports. In FY2025, more than 267,000 tonnes of freight came through Melbourne Airport. The new runway will facilitate further growth in freight and help unlock more opportunities for local exporters to move time-critical produce into international markets.

What will the noise impacts be?

The addition of a third runway will change how aircraft operate at Melbourne Airport, affecting which runways are used and how aircraft noise is experienced across surrounding communities. We have developed a Flight Path and Noise Tool that allows people to see the expected impacts on their address.

A key condition of Federal Government approval of the third runway is the development of a Noise Sharing Plan. Led by independent consultants, the Plan will guide how aircraft noise is managed and shared across the communities surrounding Melbourne Airport.

Noise-sharing strategies aim to distribute aircraft noise exposure and give communities periods of respite.

Communities likely to be affected will be consulted in the key decisions during this process. More information about consultation is available at our Major Projects Hub: <https://www.melbourneairportprojectshub.com.au/noise-sharing-plan>.

Find out more by clicking or scanning this QR code.

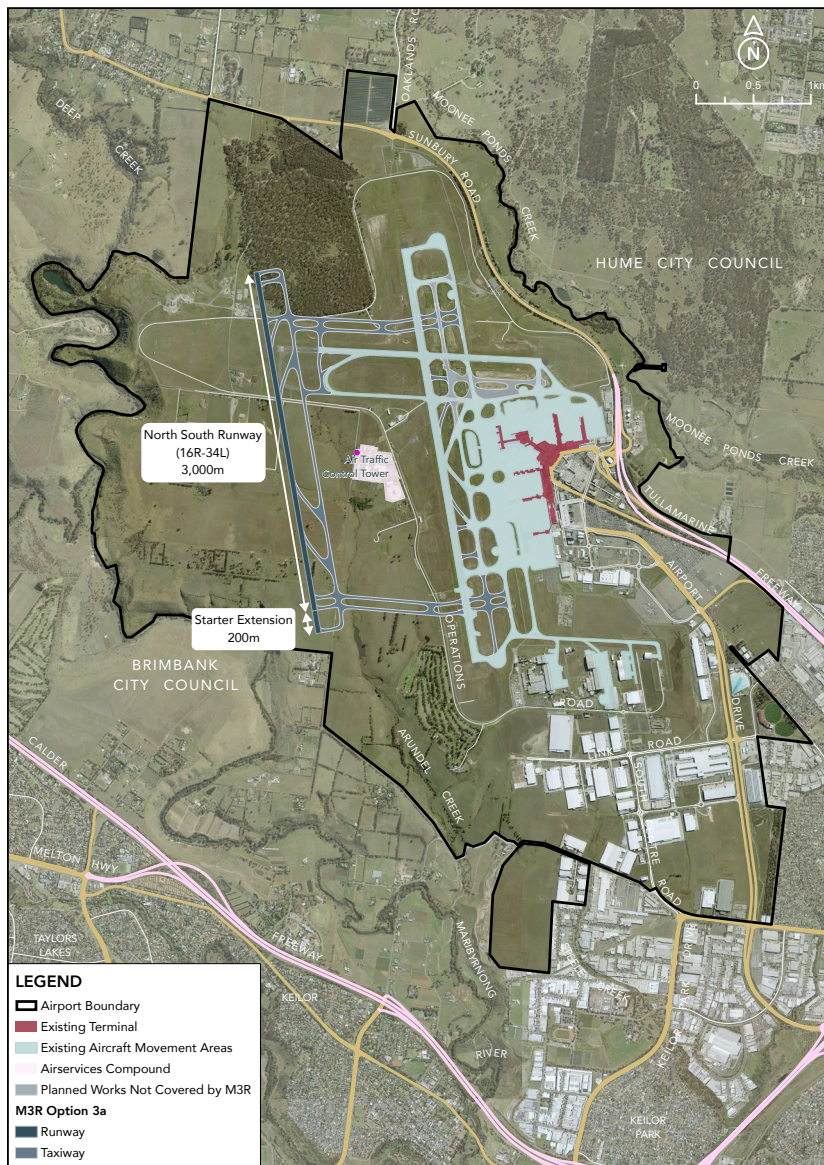


How will noise impacts be managed?

In addition to the Noise Sharing Plan, Melbourne Airport will be developing a Noise Amelioration Plan and Program for eligible residential dwellings and public buildings (schools, childcare facilities and health centres) most impacted by noise from the third runway. This program will be developed in consultation

with local councils, communities and state and federal agencies. More information will be available as the plan is developed at:

<https://www.melbourneairportprojectshub.com.au/noise-amelioration-plan-and-program>



How will the new runway be built?

Detailed design work for the third runway is currently underway, with major construction works expected to begin in 2026. Construction will occur over five to six years in a staged program designed to reduce impacts on airport operations and neighbouring communities. Construction includes earthworks for the runway and taxiways, asphalt and concrete pavement works, drainage works, and the installation of other services and supporting infrastructure.

Melbourne Airport recognises the importance of a sustainable and environmentally responsible approach and will manage environmental risks accordingly.

Reasons why we need a third runway



Freight and logistics support
267,000 tonnes
in FY2025



Melbourne Airport supports
5 of the 10 busiest domestic
flight routes in Australia



76 million passengers
expected to pass through
Melbourne Airport by 2042



Melbourne's population
is expected to reach
6 million people by 2032
exceeding Sydney and placing
more demand on air travel



Around
60 per cent
of all aircraft operating Australian
domestic and narrow-body
short-haul international routes
cycle through Melbourne Airport
every weekday
with usually 50% of those
operating before 10am



Melbourne Airport is one of the
busiest airports in the world
without a parallel runway system

For further information contact newrunway@melair.com.au or call 03 9297 1597